FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 JULY 1984

Libya

Libyan aircraft intercepted and chased away several U.S. 6th Fleet planes which overflew the Gulf of Sidra on 26 July, a Libyan military spokesman announced in a statement carried by JANA. He said the incident was one among a series of "provocative actions" by 164 U.S. warplanes off the Libyan coast that day. Libya subsequently sent messages to the Nonaligned Movement, the United Nations, the OAU, and the ICO, protesting the U.S. "violations" of Libyan "territorial waters" in the Gulf of Sidra and stressing that Libya reserves the right to defend its airspace and waters, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland Radio reported. Following the incident, the Libyan Air Force and air defenses staged a large live ammunition exercise in the Tripoli area, Tripoli radio noted. "angry popular demonstrations" against the U.S. "terrorist" actions were also held in Tripoli and other towns, according to JANA.

In another development, JANA announced Libya's decision to withdraw from the Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

Sudan

The state security organization has arrested a "terrorist group" which planned to assassinate President Ja'far Numayri and blow up the U.S. Embassy, SUNA announced on 28 July. The detainees admitted that their organization is based in Libya where they received training at camps under the supervision of Libyan, Iranian, and Palestinian officers, according to a security source cited by the agency. JANA's political editor responded by denying Libyan involvement in the affair, asserting that the Sudanese Government is making false accusations against Libya in order to attract sympathy from the United States. The Sudanese allegations are also a clear attempt to retaliate against Libya's warning to the Khartoum government, made through Saudi Arabia, calling on it to stop sheltering and training "stray dogs" from Libya, the JANA editor added.

Egypt

The return of the Egyptian ambassador to Israel is linked to securing a full Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and to "giving momentum" to the Palestinian problem and the Taba problem, President Husni Mubarak declared in remarks to journalists reported by MENA on 28 July. Asked about the Israeli election results, the president stressed that he will deal with any government chosen by the Israeli people, whether it is led by the Likud bloc, the Labor Party, or any other party.

Israel

USSR Proposals — Israel expressed "reservations" about the Soviet Union's recent Middle East peace proposals, transmitted by TASS on 29 July, and described as "not serious" its call for an international conference, Jerusalem radio reported. Citing an AP report of a senior Israeli official's remarks on the subject, the radio said that Israel would be prepared to consider "various possibilities" if the USSR resumed diplomatic ties. According to an Israeli Government spokesman cited by AFP, Israel "totally rejects" the Soviet proposals. He emphasized that only direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab countries can improve the situation in the area.

Government Formation — President Hayim Herzog's consultations with representatives of the Knesset factions on forming a new government will begin on 31 July, Jerusalem radio reported.

Lebanon

Beirut Security Situation — Army units took control of Beirut's central sector on 28 July, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Although many of the barricades are being removed, the crossing points will not be opened for civilians until the removal of mines in the area, the radio added.

Meanwhile, officials of the Progressive Socialist Party and the Al-Murabitun movement affirmed that the clashes that occurred between the two groups in Beirut on 29 July have been contained, Beirut radio reported. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon had reported that the clashes left at least 2 dead and 13 wounded.

Karami in Saudi Arabia — Prime Minister Rashid Karami returned to Beirut on 29 July after meeting in Saudi Arabia with King Fahd, Beirut radio reported. The talks were characterized by a "spirit of brotherhood and complete trust" and both sides held "identical views in all matters," according to Riyadh radio. Commenting on the results of the talks in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio, Karami noted that Saudi Arabia is "fully and constantly prepared" to support Lebanon and he disclosed that Saudi experts will shortly visit Lebanon to discuss economic and construction projects with Lebanese officials.

Birri on Resistance — At a 29 July news conference, Minister of State for South Lebanon and Reconstruction Nabih Birri urged the government to take clear positions on support for the national resistance against Israeli forces in the south, Beirut radio reported. The radio also cited Birri's remarks to *PRAVDA* that both the people and government "have the right to resist occupation."

Attacks Against IDF — There were four attacks against IDF soldiers in southern Lebanon on 29 July, IDF radio reported. There were no casualties in any of the attacks, although two soldiers were wounded in an attack on 27 July, according to the radio.

Palestinian Affairs

Nimr Salih, one of the leaders of the dissident movement within Fatah, has sent PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir

'Arafat a message emphasizing his return to the Fatah ranks and his continued commitment to Fatah's principles, the Amman paper *AD-DUSTUR* reported. This follows earlier reports of a split between Salih and the other dissident leaders.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation — Iran announced new successes against Iraqi forces and their Kurdish allies in the border region west of Sar Dasht, asserting in a 28 July military communique broadcast by Tehran radio that "at least 220" Iraqis and "counterrevolutionaries" were killed during a recent operation in which Iranian forces captured "vast areas" of the border zone and heights overlooking the Iraqi town of Qal'at Dizah. The Iraqis responded by shelling Iranian villages in West Azarbaijan, killing and wounding 11 civilians, according to another Iranian communique cited by IRNA. For Iraq's part, military communiques broadcast by Baghdad radio said that Iranian artillery shelled several Iraqi towns.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Comments — Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in a Friday sermon broadcast by Tehran radio, contended that in their missile attacks on shipping, the Iraqis "have not inflicted on us one hundredth of the losses which they suffered as a result of firing these missiles." In this regard, he said the Americans have admitted that Iran has made "something capable of misleading" Exocet missiles, an admission they should have made 2 years ago. While reaffirming that the Iranian forces are ready to carry out "the task which we must fulfill," the Majlis speaker stressed that Iran prefers to solve the problem of the war "without an attack and without bloodshed." Nevertheless, he indicated that Iran still adheres to its demand for the trial of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn as a condition for ending the war, adding that if diplomacy fails, Iran will be compelled to obtain its rights by other means.

PLO Mediation Role — A Fatah delegation will visit Iran in August as part of a unilateral PLO mediation attempt to end the Iran-Iraq war, according to a Palestinian source in Amman cited by Radio Monte Carlo. Meanwhile, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn discussed ways to intensify efforts to stop the war in talks with Yasir 'Arafat, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. The two men reviewed the results of the recent meetings of the Islamic Good Offices Committee. Before his arrival in Baghdad, 'Arafat told journalists in Kuwait that the Good Offices Committee has sent messages to both sides and is awaiting their answers before sending a delegation to Tehran and Baghdad, INA noted.

Iran

OPEC Membership — An Oil Ministry spokesman categorically denied rumors that Iran has withdrawn from OPEC, IRNA reported on 28 July.

Relations With Turkey — The governor general of West Azarbaijan began talks on border issues and trade exchange with his counterpart from the Turkish border Province of Van, IRNA disclosed in a report from Urumiyeh. The Iranian official said the talks also covered measures to prevent "insurgents and bandits" from crossing the two countries' borders.

Demonstrations — The Islamic Revolution Committee's central headquarters, in a statement reported by Tehran radio, stressed that official permission must be obtained to stage any march or demonstration, adding that such permission will never be given to those who create chaos and disorder under the guise of supporting the Hezbollah's drive to enforce purdah for women. Nevertheless, the statement repeated recent official warnings that women must abide by Islamic regulations and the requirements of purdah. In related remarks at a Friday sermon reported by IRNA, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani criticized those women who are failing to observe Islamic dress regulations in order to make a political point, though he emphasized that further demonstrations against such behavior are unnecessary.

Pakistan-Afghanistan

A bomb exploded outside the Peshawar headquarters of Gulbuddin Hikmaytar's Hezbe Islami Afghan resistance faction on 28 July, killing 6 Afghans and wounding over 20 others, according to Pakistani police sources cited by AFP. A spokesman for Hikmaytar's organization blamed the attack on Soviet agents and warned that it will be avenged by attacks on Soviet and DRA targets, AFP added.

Another bomb killed or wounded 35 people in Parachinar, close by the Afghan border, while a third explosion was reported in Chitral, AFP noted the same day.

India-Pakistan

Indian troops have sealed the border with Pakistan in Kashmir and intensified patrols to check infiltration, reports PTI as cited by AFP.

Maghreb Affairs

Tunisia — President Habib Bourguiba has decided to order the release of a number of people imprisoned for participating in the January riots and for belonging to the Islamic Trend movement, KUNA reported citing an informed Tunisian source. Meanwhile, in remarks carried by Tunis radio, Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali welcomed the "tangible improvement" in Bourguiba's health.

Western Sahara — A SDAR statement cited by Algiers radio claimed that Polisario forces killed or wounded 75 Moroccan soldiers in attacks launched between 22 and 25 July.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 147 *30 July 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Kabul Reports Continued Success Against Rebels ..... C 1
'Ringleaders' Captured in Faryab ..... C 1
Karmal, Keshtmand Approve New Regulations ..... C 1
Mujahidin Claim Successes Against Soviet-Karmal Forces ..... C 1
Attacks Repulsed in Kapisa ..... C 1
SPA: 8 Soviets Killed ..... C 1
Karachi: Soviet Embassy Attacked ..... C 1

BANGLADESH

AFP: 'Principal Foreign Secretary' Appointed ..... D 1
Choudhury Assumes Post ..... D 1
Commentary Hails Scrapping of Military Courts ..... D 1

INDIA

AFP: Troops Seal Kashmir Border With Pakistan ..... E 1
Jammu, Kashmir Note Defends Abdullah Dismissal ..... E 1
Home Minister Insists on 'Normalcy' in Punjab ..... E 1
Sikh Leader Ready for Kar Sewa at Golden Temple ..... E 1
325 Held in Patiala for 'Breach of Peace' ..... E 2
Reportage on Curfew Enforcement, Violence in Hyderabad ..... E 2
3 Killed, 60 Injured ..... E 2
Curfew Extension 'Precautionary' ..... E 2
More Deaths, Injuries ..... E 2
Legislators, 100 Others Arrested ..... E 2
Inquiry Ordered Into Bijapur Police Shooting ..... E 2
Maharashtra Police Fire on Crowd; 2 Injured ..... E 2
New Zealand Decision To Reopen Mission Welcomed ..... E 2

PAKISTAN

Peshawar Magistrate Issues Press Note on Bombing ..... F 1
Afghan Guerrilla Headquarters Targeted *[London BBC]* ..... F 1
AFP: 6 Dead in Attack ..... F 1
AFP: Second Blast Kills 6, Wounds 29 ..... F 1
Earthquake Hits Peshawar, Islamabad 28 July ..... F 2
Yaqub Khan Returns From PRC, Briefs Newsmen ..... F 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

NEPAL

AFP: Chairman Rejects No-Confidence Motion ..... G 1

SRI LANKA

Colombo: Life 'Returned to Normal' in Jaffna ..... G 1
Security Minister Sees 'Fascism' in North ..... G 1

IRAN

Majlis Approves Vote of Confidence Request ..... I 1
Friday Sermon Claims Ability To Deflect Exocets ..... I 1
Hashemi-Rafsanjani Cites American 'Admission' ..... I 1
Comments on Genscher Remarks ..... I 2
Spokesman Denies Rumors of Withdrawal From OPEC ..... I 3
Soviet Envoy Hands Velayati Note From Gromyko ..... I 3
Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques ..... I 3
No 1,801 ..... I 3
No 1,802 ..... I 3
No 1,803 ..... I 4
IRGC Communique on Deaths of Counterrevolutionaries ..... I 4
Fourth Enemy Offensive Repulsed in Sumar ..... I 4
Large Group of Volunteers Leave for Warfronts ..... I 5
Grand Ayatollah Montazeri Receives Leaders ..... I 5
Iraqi Islamic Council ..... I 5
Mujahidin Scholars ..... I 5
Ulema Executive Board Members ..... I 5

Kabul Reports Continued Success Against Rebels

LD281613 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Text] In view of the requirements of the new phase for improved work, the crushing of rebels — those enemies of people's prosperity and tranquility — is becoming increasingly more intense, and the environs of our country are becoming free of these criminals.

Quoting a spokesman from the security forces in Paktia Province, a correspondent of BIA reports that a number of counterrevolutionaries have been crushed after operations mounted there. [break in transmission] 15 antitank mines and 15 boxes of various ammunition were seized.

According to the report of security forces in Kabul Province, a number of rebels were crushed as a result of operations recently mounted in Paghman. Seven of them were captured along with 4 weapons, 15 shells for rocket launchers, and a quantity of ammunition. Security forces from Ghazni Province report a successful operation was recently mounted in its environs which resulted in the crushing of 21 rebels and the destruction of 1 mortar and 19 various weapons. After recent operations mounted in Nangarhar Province by security forces, a number of armed rebels were crushed and their weapons seized. In accordance with the report by security forces from Zaranj, Nimruz Province, as a result of operations [break in transmission] were crushed and a number of them with a quantity of ammunition and weapons were captured. A report from Parwan Province says after operations mounted there by the courageous security forces crushed a number of the criminal rebels and seized their various weapons.

'Ringleaders' Captured in Faryab

LD281702 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] Citing a spokesman of the security forces in Faryab Province, the BAKHTAR correspondent reports that as a result of the recent successful operations launched in Andkhvoy district, Faryab Province, by the country's vigilant security forces, 77 killers, including their ringleaders, (Khalil Pahlawan), (Serwar), (Hamrah Qol), (Rahman Nazer), and (Jalil), were captured. One recoilless artillery with 14 shells, one 82-mm mortar with 8 shells, 2 heavy American machineguns, 124 various weapons, 20,775 rounds of various make bullets, 8 DShK's, 12 handgrenades, 15 mines, 8 motorvehicles, and 21 horses were seized from these criminals by the courageous security forces.

Karmal, Keshtmand Approve New Regulations

LD290638 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] The decree of the Revolutionary Council Presidium concerning the dissolution of the Rural Development Department of the Council of Ministers and the regulation regarding the internal inspection of ministerial departments, after approval respectively by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers, were published in the Official Gazette issue dated 23 July 1984.

Supplement No 2 of the civil aviation law, supplement No 2 of the telephone law, supplement No 2 of the employees' law, and supplement No 2 of the civil servants' law were also published in the Official Gazette issue dated 5 Jun 1984 after approval by Babrak Karmal. The regulation regarding the Foreign Currency Commission of the Executive Committee of the DRA Council of Ministers and the method for paying fees and overtime payment were published in the above issue of the Official Gazette after the approval of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Mujahidin Claim Successes Against Soviet-Karmal Forces

Attacks Repulsed in Kapisa

BK271548 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Text] The Afghan mujahidin have repulsed the Soviet-Karmal forces' attacks after 2 weeks of fierce resistance in the Kapisa Kuhestan area of Afghanistan. According to news agency reports, the mujahidin inflicted heavy losses in men and materiel on the Soviet-Karmal forces. Ten Karmal regime soldiers joined the mujahidin along with their arms. To end mujahidin resistance, Soviet planes carried out indiscriminate bombings in the area, killing 31 and injuring more than 100 civilians.

SPA: 8 Soviets Killed

LD282038 Riyadh SPA in English 1909 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] Islamabad, July 28, SPA — Eight Soviets, including two Russian advisers were killed during an attack on Jalalabad airport launched by Afghan mujahidin on July 18, the Afghan Islamic press reported today. It said nearly a unit of 113 mujahidin took part in the attack on the airport. The mujahidin also destroyed three Soviet helicopters and damaged another seven in addition to two tanks, three oil tankers, one oil storage depot and one ammunition dump. In another development, the mujahidin also stormed the Shahi Khel military base in the area. The mujahidin's rocket fire killed 15 Soviet-Afghan troops and wounded 29 others, the agency said.

Karachi: Soviet Embassy Attacked

BK290609 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 29 Jul 84

[Text] In Afghanistan, there are reports of mujahidin attacks on Soviet installations in Kabul. A report says the Soviet Embassy in the Afghan capital came under rocket attack last week causing considerable losses. There is, however, no confirmation of the report from Soviet or Karmal sources. Another report says the mujahidin are intensifying their activities in Ghazni, Nimruz, Paktia, Nangarhar, and Parwan.

AFP: 'Principal Foreign Secretary' Appointed

BK271318 Hong Kong AFP in English 1310 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Text] Dhaka, July 27 (AFP) — President Hussain Mohammad Ershad has appointed Humayun Rashid Choudhury, Bangladesh's ambassador to the United States, as his principal foreign secretary and adviser on foreign affairs.

President Ershad has held charge of the Foreign Affairs Ministry since the post became vacant with the exit of former Foreign Minister Aminur Rahman Shamsud Dohar last month.

The principal foreign secretary and adviser will rank as a deputy minister.

A career diplomat, Mr. Choudhury also has served as the foreign secretary and was Bangladesh's ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Choudhury Assumes Post

BK280956 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 0900 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] The president's adviser on foreign affairs, Humayun Rashid Choudhury, has called upon the officials [words indistinct] with sincerity to highlight the country's foreign policy and enhance Bangladesh's prestige in the world. He was addressing the Foreign Ministry officials after assuming the responsibility of the ministry in Dhaka today.

Commentary Hails Scrapping of Military Courts

BK291329 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 0900 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In a (?major) step toward restoration of democracy in the country, the government has decided to abolish all the 22 summary military courts from the 1st of next month. President and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad issued a regulation the day before yesterday in this regard. Consequently, all the pending cases of the summary military courts will henceforth be tried by the civil and criminal courts. The government's decision in this regard is a significant one and is consistent with President Ershad's commitment to restore democracy and the rule of law. The decision also assumes significance in view of the chief election commissioner's announcement on holding the parliamentary elections on 8 December next.

It may be recalled that immediately after assuming power the present government assured the nation that it would not make any delay in restoring democracy so that the elected representatives of the people could determine the people's future. The main objective of the martial law government is to restore a healthy democracy. So, the present martial law is different from any martial laws in the past.

Union council elections have already been held, and the subdistrict elections have been postponed as desired by the political parties. Restrictions on political activities have been withdrawn, and the government has ensured the freedom of the press. Radio Bangladesh and Bangladesh television are now reflecting the views of all major political parties.

A solid base for democracy has been established by the process of decentralization of the administration. The police station areas have been upgraded into subdistricts, thereby transforming them into basic developmental units. The subdistrict level administration has been initiated in a bid to entrust the elected representatives of the people with the overall responsibility for development and to create a wide scope for the people's participation in the developmental activities. The administrative setup has been formulated in such a way that all the officials of the subdistricts have been made responsible to the elected representatives of the people. This means that implemontation of all minor developmental schemes will be under the complete control of the councils elected at the subdistrict level. There is no other alternative arrangement to expedite the pace of development of socioeconomic conditions of rural Bangladesh. Under the arrangement, all the lawmakers [as heard], as well as those implementing the schemes, will be responsible to the elected representatives of the people for their action and efforts.

The present government's faith in the rule of law and democracy is unquestionable. The abolition of summary military courts categorically testifies to it.

Judicial reforms have been launched, and the people have in the meantime started enjoying their benefits. As the courts are set up at the subdistrict level, the rural people have now access to justice nearer their homes, and the cases and litigations are tackled faster. In the past it was a time- consuming process to get justice because the rural people had to travel to towns and cities time and again, spending a large amount of money and facing the utmost difficulties. Before the present martial law government assumed power, there were 150,000 cases pending in the courts, out of which 30,000 cases were pending in sessions courts and 120,000 cases in other courts. Some of these cases were pending at the courts for 8-10 years. Following judicial reforms undertaken by the present government, about 50,000 cases were disposed of during the last few months, and only 17,000 cases were pending before the setting up of high courts at various places. However, after the setting up of these high courts, 4,000 cases were cleared within only 4 months.

AFP: Troops Seal Kashmir Border With Pakistan

BK281148 Hong Kong AFP in English 1144 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] New Delhi, July 28 (AFP) — Indian troops have sealed the border with Pakistan in Kashmir and intensified patrols to check infiltration, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported today.

The agency reported from Jammu — the winter capital of Kashmir state — that officials had said three people were being held. Documents seized by police indicated they were involved in espionage and smuggling for Pakistan.

The agency also said a few activists of the banned All India Sikh Students Federation, detained recently, had admitted to links with Pakistan's federal intelligence agency.

There was no immediate confirmation of the report here and the Defence Ministry said it was checking on the story.

PTI also said eight Pakistanis had infiltrated the Jammu region during the Indian Army's action last month at the Golden Temple in Amritsar, against militant Sikhs seeking greater autonomy for Punjab. Four of the Pakistanis were in jail and the others on trial.

India and Pakistan have since independence in 1947 fought two wars over ownership of Kashmir. A line of control now forms the effective border in the state.

Jammu, Kashmir Note Defends Abdullah Dismissal

BK281615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir government has said that the action of the governor in dismissing Dr Farooq Abdullah is fully constitutional, proper, and legal. In a detailed note on events leading to the change in government on the 2d of this month, the government said there was a rise in antinational activities during the last 2 years in the state. It said there is clear evidence of involvement of Dr Farooq Abdullah in the activities of these elements. It is because of these antiparty and antinational activites that 12 National Conference legislators had withdrawn support to Dr Abdullah, the note said.

The note gives a detailed account of the activities of antinational elements in the state and the former government's failure to check these activities. It appealed to the opposition parties to consider the situation in Jammu and Kashmir with a greater sense of responsibility toward the nation and subordinate the narrow political gain for larger national interest.

Home Minister Insists on 'Normalcy' in Punjab

BK280557 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] The home minister, Mr Narasimha Rao has said that normalcy would have to be restored in Punjab before resuming negotiations with Akali leaders. Results cannot be achieved in an abnormal situation. Mr Rao was replying to the 3-day debate on the White Paper in the Lok Sabha yesterday.

The house sat late last night to conclude the debate and adopt a motion taking note of the White Paper. In his brief reply, the home minister described the Army action in Punjab as one taken at the right time and in the right direction with the Army showing utmost patience and restraint. No one has lost or won. It was the hour of triumph for the Indian polity and secularism. He clarified that during the protracted negotiations with Akali leaders, no real agreement was forthcoming at any point. The moment we hoped to find a solution, fresh killings took place. Everyone heaved a sigh of relief when the Army was finally called in to flush out terrorists from the religious places.

Mr Rao thanked the members for raising the debate to new heights by underlining the truth that all sections of the house are for unity and integrity of the country.

Intervening in the discussion, the parliamentary affairs minister Mr Buta Singh charged the SGPC [Sikh Temples Management Committee] and Akali Dal leaders with aligning themselves with the extremists and creating conditions which led to the Army action in Punjab. He said the Akali leaders totally changed the objectives of the organization, and what they did was contrary to the ideals of love and patriotism preached by the Sikh gurus. He also blamed the terrorists for damaging the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion] during the Army action. Denying the involvement of the Congress-I with the extremists, Mr Buta Singh said Bhindranwale was the creation of the SGPC and the Akali leaders.

Earlier, some opposition members blamed the government for allowing the situation to get worse. They alleged that the Army is being used beyond the required extent.

The home minister clarified that Army's role is confined to the specific job of combatting terrorists. A Congress-I member charged the opposition with adopting a confused and vacillating policy for short-term political gains. He said the Akalis had at no stage dropped the Anandpur Saheb resolution [on their demands] and there was no question of the government's accepting any demand which affected the country's integrity.

An independent member was of the view that the Army action in Punjab was inevitable. He paid tribute to the jawans [soldiers] who sacrificed their lives to save the Harimandir Saheb [main temple].

Sikh Leader Ready for Kar Sewa at Golden Temple

BK290722 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Jul 84

[Text] The Sikh religious leader Baba Kharak Singh has announced his willingness to undertake the Kar Sewa [voluntary community service] in the Golden Temple complex. According to agencies a statement to this effect was read out on his behalf at a meeting of the Sant Samaj [Sikh society] in Amritsar yesterday. The Shiromani Gurdwara Prabadhak [Sikh temple management] Committee, the Sikh high priests and the Akali

Dal have demanded withdrawal of the security forces from the Golden Temple complex to enable Baba Kharak Singh to carry out kar sewa.

Reacting to Baba Kharak Singh's decision, Baba Santa Singh, who has been carrying out the Kar Sewa for the last few days, told newsmen that he had initially offered to cooperate with Baba Kharak Singh in undertaking the Kar Sewa. However, he had received no response then.

325 Held in Patiala for 'Breach of Peace'

BK291244 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Jul 84

[Text] In Patiala, about 325 persons were arrested today on apprehension of breach of peace. The arrested include the former member of parliament, Captain Amarinder Singh. They wanted to take out a procession to Amritsar.

Reportage on Curfew Enforcement, Violence in Hyderabad

3 Killed, 60 Injured

BK271604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Text] According to PRESS TRUST OF INDIA, at least 3 persons were killed and about 60 others injured in fresh incidents of violence that erupted in the old city area of Hyderabad this afternoon. The day curfew in the area which was lifted this morning has been reimposed due to recurrence of violence. Police opened fire to disperse an unruly mob which pelted stones near a place of worship. The curfew was relaxed for 1 and 1/2 hours from 1700 to 1830.

Curfew Extension 'Precautionary'

BK281244 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] In Hyderabad City, curfew has been extended to six more police station limits till 0600 tomorrow. A police spokesman said that this has been done as a precautionary measure. He said the situation is under control and no untoward incident has been reported so far.

More Deaths, Injuries

BK290854 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Jul 84

[Text] Four persons died in group clashes in old Hyderabad City which took place during relaxation of curfew hours in Sultan Shahi area. A spokesman of the police department told our Hyderabad correspondent that five others received stab injuries, and the situation is now peaceful and under control, the spokesman added.

Legislators, 100 Others Arrested

BK291608 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jul 84

[Text] In Hyderabad old city, five persons died following violent incidents when curfew was relaxed this morning. The police commissioner told newsmen that the state government has requested for more Central Reserve Police Force [CRPF] personnel to deal with the situation. One company of the CRPF has already been deployed in the area and two more are to be deployed tomorrow.

The police commissioner said five persons, including four legislators — Mr A. Narendra, Mr Amanullah Khan, Mr Bakar Agha, Mr (Kazi Abdul Sayeed) — were arrested under the National Security Act. One hundred more antisocial elements have been rounded up as a precautionary measure. Curfew has been extended up to Tuesday morning without any relaxation. The commissioner said arrangements will be made to supply essential commodities, including milk, in the affected areas. The minister of state for home, Mr Venkatasubbiah, is visiting Hyderabad tomorrow to have personal assessment of the situation in the city.

Inquiry Ordered Into Bijapur Police Shooting

BK271606 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Text] The Karnataka chief minister, Mr Ramkrishna Hegde, has ordered a judicial inquiry into the police firing yesterday at Hungund in Bijapur district, where three persons were killed. The local people were agitating for a state bus depot at Hungund. When the mob became violent, police had to resort to firing after lathi [baton] charge proved ineffective.

Maharashtra Police Fire on Crowd; 2 Injured

BK281602 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] In Maharashtra, police opened fire to disperse two groups of people indulged in violence at (Mela) in Nasik district yesterday. Two persons were injured in the firing. Police sources told our Nasik correspondent that the situation is now under control.

New Zealand Decision To Reopen Mission Welcomed

BK261619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Jul 84

[Text] The New Zealand prime minister, Mr David Lange, who was assumed office today has expressed the desire to improve his country's relations with India. Mr Lange said in Wellington he has already written to Mrs Gandhi expressing his decision to reopen the New Zealand High Commission in New Delhi. The previous government had closed down its high commission in New Delhi 2 years ago as an economy measure. India has welcomed the decision. An official spokesman said in New Delhi the sooner New Zealand opens its mission, the better it is.

Peshawar Magistrate Issues Press Note on Bombing

BK281023 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate in Peshawar today says 3 persons were killed and 13 others injured in a bomb blast in Faqirabad in Peshawar city this morning. The bomb was planted in a vehicle. Later, one person succumbed to his injuries in the hospital while the condition of the other injured persons is satisfactory. Order for immediate inquiry has been issued.

Afghan Guerrilla Headquarters Targeted

BK281309 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] Next, the bomb attack outside the headquarters in Peshawar of the Afghan guerrilla group, Hezbe Islami. Reports are still coming in about the attack of car bomb but it's believed that at least four people were killed. Alex Brodie has been on the line from Islamabad.

[Begin Brodie recording] The deputy commissioner of Peshawar says that 3 people were killed outright by the bomb, 1 died later in hospital, and 12 others were injured. One report quoting hospital sources says 6 people died and others were critically injured. But this report has not been confirmed. Nor is it clear yet how many of the casualties were Afghans and how many Pakistanis. The bomb exploded [words indistinct] in the morning outside the headquarters of the Hezbe Islami, one of the main Afghan resistance groups. Officials of the group say that normally their leader, Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, would have been in the building to deliver a lecture between 0700 and 0800. But this Saturday, he had other engagements. All the main Afghan guerrilla groups have their political headquarters in Peshawar. There are several hundred thousand Afghans in the town, and battlefield rivalry, political differences, and personal grudges have often been fought out there. There have been shootouts and assasinations. Hezbe Islami has been a favorite target of allegations by other groups and its headquarters has been attacked before with guns and grenades and Hezbe Islami has accused rival groups of previous attacks. But this time, the biggest attack, a spokesman of the Hezbe Island said he was convinced that it was not the work of rival group. He blamed the Soviet Union and in particular, the KGB. [end recording]

AFP: 6 Dead in Attack

BK281348 Hong Kong AFP in English 1338 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, July 28 (AFP) — Six Afghan guerrillas were killed and more than 20 wounded, some of them seriously, when a car bomb exploded outside the headquarters of Afghan resistance leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, police said.

A brief government statement, however, gave the toll as four dead and 13 wounded. Police had cordoned off the area, the statement added.

A report that a Pakistani was also among the dead could not be immediately verified. Several Pakistanis were also reported to be among those hospitalised after the incident.

A spokesman for Gulbuddin Hikmatyar's Hezbe Islami group later blamed the attack on Soviet agents and said the attack would be avenged by blowing up a Soviet mission abroad, guerrilla attacks on military targets in Soviet territory and its embassy in Kabul, and Afghan missions abroad.

The explosion was timed to coincide with Gulbuddin Hikmatyar's usual Saturday morning address to his guerrillas, the spokesman said. However, the resistance leader had not visited his headquarters today because of other engagements.

Earlier reports said the explosion at around 9 am (0400 GMT) was caused by a device thrown from a moving auto rickshaw.

Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, 50, is known as a hardliner who is unwilling to enter into negotiations with the Kabul government, believing that military action is the only way to overthrow the Soviet-backed regime in Pakistan. [as received] He is also vice president of an alliance of seven Afghan resistance groups but has fallen out with leaders of member parties, some of whom have already dissociated themselves from the alliance.

Factional fighting among the divided Afghan resistance has often claimed lives in Peshawar, the base of almost all the groups. Last year there were assasination attempts on the rival 3-party moderate alliance's leader sibghatullah mujaddadi, and Gulbuddin Hikmatyar's men were blamed for the attempts. However, the resistance leader's spokesman ruled out the idea that any factional feud was behind today's attack.

AFP: Second Blast Kills 6, Wounds 29

NC281804 Paris AFP in English 1757 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Islamabad, July 28 (AFP) — The second blast, which took place simultaneously in Parachinar town on the Afghan frontier, killed six persons and wounded 29 others, official sources said, while yet another blast was reported in Chitral town inside a college hostel but no casualty was reported.

The second blast took place in the area where an armed clash between Sunni and Shi'ite Moslems last year claimed over a dozen lives.

The area is populated by Afghan refugees also and the sources suspected that saboteurs disguised as displaced Afghans wanted to reignite the communal tension which had subsided after hectic efforts by the local administration and tribal chiefs.

The sudden increase in bomb blasts follows reports from Afghan resistance sources that the Soviet-backed regime of Afghanistan has infiltrated secret police "Khad" agents into northwest frontier province for subversive activities.

Earthquake Hits Peshawar, Islamabad 28 July
BK280805 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] An earthquake of medium intensity rocked Peshawar at 0938 this morning. Its epicenter was 250-km north of Peshawar in the Hindu Kush range. The earthquake measured 5 on the international Richter Scale. Earth tremors were also felt in Islamabad. So far there has been no report of loss of life or property.

Yaqub Khan Returns From PRC, Briefs Newsmen
BK271728 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, returned to Islamabad tonight after a 5-day official visit to China. Talking to newsmen at the airport, he described his visit as most useful which reflected the existing close friendship, understanding, andgoodwill between Pakistan and China. He said his discussions with the Chinese leaders confirmed the identity and close proximity of views between the two countries on almost all contemporary issues. He said China fully supports Pakistan's efforts for a negotiated settlement of the Afghanistan problem on the basis of the four principles contained in the UN resolutions and considers the continued Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as one of the (?few) obstacles to the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations.

In reply to a question whether he discussed nuclear issue with China, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said the position of Pakistan on nuclear program is very clear: The allegation of any cooperation between Pakistan and China has been rejected by both the countries and there is no plan of any cooperation in this field in the future.

The foreign minister said during his meetings with President Li Xiannian, Premier Zhao Ziyang, and his Chinese counterpart, Mr Wu Xueqian, all of them expressed sentiments of respect and affection for Pakistan. They appreciate the important role Pakistan is playing in international affairs and the contribution it is making toward the cause of peace and stability in the region. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that Chinese leaders endorsed the view that the principle of sovereign equality offered a sound basis for mutually beneficial relations between the neighboring countries.

NEPAL

AFP: Chairman Rejects No-Confidence Motion

BK291620 Hong Kong AFP in English 1615 GMT 29 Jul 84

[Text] Katmandu, July 29 (AFP) — A scheduled no-confidence motion against the Nepalese Government on corruption accusations failed to be heard in the legislature today, causing an opposition walk-out.

The chairman of the legislature, the National Panchayat, announced today that the vote on the government of Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand would not be taken because the charges in the motion were not specific.

Opposition members said the decision was unconstitutional and biased and walked out of the chamber. It was not known what action the opposition would now take, but observers said it could be difficult for Mr. Chand to function effectively and that Chairman Marich Man Singh might have to close the National Panchayat.

The motion was registered on July 1 and was to have been voted on today. Observers said the government would probably have won with a two-thirds majority.

The legislature chairman said the motion should be blocked "in the unity and interest" of the panchayat system.

Bhagabati Das Shrestha, chairman of the Finance Committee and a prominent opposition member, said the decision not to hear the vote contravened the country's 1980 Constitution and appealed to the king to intervene.

Last year the government of Surya Bahadur Thapa was brought down by a no-confidence motion and replaced by the Chand administration.

SRI LANKA

Colombo: Life 'Returned to Normal' in Jaffna

BK271058 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Text] Life in Jaffna and other parts of the northern and eastern provinces returned to normal today after 2 days of hartal [strike]. Shops and business establishments opened this morning. Attendance in schools, government offices, and other private sector establishments also returned to normal. Transport Board buses and private buses operate their normal services.

According to reports from Jaffna, large crowds of people from the suburbs and villages thronged the city to purchase their day-to-day requirements. Reports from Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Mannar and other provincial towns say that people went about attending to their day-to-day activities today. In these areas too, transport and other services have returned to normal.

Security Minister Sees 'Fascism' in North

BK291200 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 29 Jul 84

[Text] There has been a notable change in politics in the north. The democratic system has been dismantled and fascism installed. This has been proved by the failure of the Satyagraha [passive protest] which was organized by the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] in Jaffna in the past few days. This was stated by the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, when he spoke at a public rally on the final day of the 91st (mahapula) at the (Devinuwara Madya Maha Vidyala).

Mr Athulathmudali noted that the Satyagraha was organized by the TULF and was promoted by the terrorists. The people in the north no longer have the right to freely participate in what they want. The end of democracy in the north is near. What has developed in the north is a system of fascism of the type preached by Hitler and Mussolini. The minister said that the people should be alert to this political change.

Mr Athulathmudali disclosed that the series of bombs (?that) exploded in Jaffna over the last 2 days were intended for 51 police and Army personnel. However, the Armed Forces were able to prevent such a plan. The terrorists have realized the strength of the Armed Forces and the peaceful nature of the people. They therefore have to find a new path.

The national security minister, raising the question whether a solution should be found to problems through discussions with democrats or fascists, stated that no one is willing to talk to fascists. He noted that the current crisis is the worst in the country since independence. He stressed that the government will never betray the independence and unity of the country to any force or country.

Majlis Approves Vote of Confidence Request

GF300940 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 30 Jul 84

[Excerpt] In its open session today, which was chaired by Brother Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Islamic Majlis approved the draft request of granting a vote of confidence to the government and the method of executing this vote of confidence.

Friday Sermon Claims Ability To Deflect Exocets

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Cites American 'Admission'

LD271346 Tehran IRNA in English 1328 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran July 27, IRNA — The imam's representative in the Supreme Defence Council said today the Islamic Republic would launch its offensive against the Iraqi aggressor regime when it no longer saw any hope in punishing the aggressor through a qualified tribunal.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said American reports of Iran's capability to deflect Iraqi Exocet missiles in the Persian Gulf was "a big admission and part of the facts."

Speaking at this week's Friday prayers at Tehran University, he said: "It has been some time since we've prepared ourselves in the battle fronts for the move we want to make. We are sad to see one Iraqi or Iranian person killed. Don't put out analyses about why we don't start the offensive."

"If you admit he (Saddam) is the aggressor, why don't you condemn him? Set up a qualified tribunal and it would issue a verdict."

"If we become disappointed and see that you are lying and trying to waste time, that day we will act in a different manner. That day the people (of Iran) would pass Baghdad and go towards Palestine."

The Majlis speaker said the Americans were forced to admit that the Islamic Republic had succeeded in deflecting Iraq's French-built Exocet missiles.

"The admission of our enemy who says Iran has deflected the most sophisticated missiles is itself a big admission and part of the facts," he said.

"If (Iraq claims) so many ships have been hit then logically there would be no more ships in the region."

Because of the high cost of the Exocet and the few ships hit by them, he said the Iraqis had suffered more losses than Iran and thus had demanded an explanation from France.

A member of the Council of Guardians, Ayatollah Imami Kashani also said in Friday prayers two weeks ago that Iran had developed a method to deflect the Exocet from its target.

On the visit to Iran by the West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the Islamic Republic's resistance had forced the West to reevaluate its views.

He said Genscher's comment after his visit that the West had made a big mistake in trying to isolate an important and powerful country such as Iran "is against all the things which they have said so far."

The issue of human rights, which was raised by Genscher in his talks with Iranian officials, had to be analysed from its roots, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said.

He added that the West's human rights record should not only be sought in Europe. They should also be sought in the plight of millions of Palestinians, the genocide of the Western-backed Khymer Rouge in Kampuchea, the struggle for the independence of Western Sahara, the invasion of Grenada and the Nicaraguan resistance.

"Why do you raise the issue of human rights against revolutionary countries? We claim that this issue should be analysed from its roots and then see who is violating human rights," Hashemi-Rafsanjani said.

"Mr. Genscher laid flowers on the resting place of (chief justice) martyr Beheshti and (president) martyr Rajaie. What does this mean? If those who are in these graves deserve flowers, could their assassins be supported? Is this compatible with human rights?"

On domestic issues, the Majlis speaker said the issue of hijab (Islamic clothing) had become a political one and the offenders of the hijab were insulting Islamic principles and the Muslim people.

However he said the people should not resort to illegal means in dealing with the issue.

"The issue of non-hijab has gotten a political color. Even one of the foreign radios said the move was a symbol of opposition to the state.

"We know that a group in our country do not believe in the hijab, such as the minorities, others like the rich who don't believe in anything, and there are those uninformed about hijab.

"We don't accuse everyone who doesn't observe the hijab but some people are making political moves with these actions," he said."

He added that demonstrations against non-hijab in the past days in most major cities were sufficient and said some individuals were trying to defame Hezbollah.

"No doubt, in these incidents there will be individuals who are not hezbollahis and ruin the reputation of Hezbollah by their actions."

"We will always approve these movements as long as they don't get mixed with illegal action...the outcome of this movement till today is enough and any more demonstrations are not necessary."

Before Hashemi-Rafsanjani's sermons, Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri said in a speech that Imam Khomeyni, Ayatollah Montazeri and the people were unhappy about those who acted violently against the offenders of the hijab and he ordered the committees to make arrests in illegal demonstrations.

"If you want to fight against non-hijab, guidance and advice is the Islamic way," he said.

Nateq-Nuri also revealed a plan to close the countries borders against drug-smugglers. He said the plan would be presented to the Majlis and would guarantee the closure of all border areas.

He said if approved, the plan would take seven years to implement and would include barbed wire, roads along the border and towers.

Comments on Genscher Remarks

LD271451 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Excerpts] On the anniversary of holding the first Tehran Friday prayers, under the imamate of Ayatollah Taleqani, our homeland's God-seeking, ubiquitous people — by their massive participation in tightly packed ranks in the auspicious Friday prayers ceremonies held throughout the country today — emphasized their increasing preparedness to safeguard the sacred achievements of the glorious Islamic Revolution and their unshakable will to hoist the banner of "There is no God but Allah!" throughout the world.

In Tehran, too, the hezbollahi Islamic nation which has risen, as in previous weeks, with their million-strong presence in the base of unity and guidance, observed the enemy-defeating Friday prayers rites under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In connection with the problems of the war, whereby even a great many enemies of the Islamic Revolution have come to realize the facts, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, continuing his second sermon, said:

[Begin Hashemi-Rafsanjani recording] Overall, the situation from the military, political and world communications standpoints, is at a satisfactory level, and the Islamic Republic and Islamic revolution are gradually beginning to open new ground with the enemies and those who wear the sword of opposition in their belts. Our people's incredible resistance on the economic field; their enduring the problems of economic blockade; our people's incredible mental resistance to the enemy's lying and deceiving propaganda, whereby they have remained consistently steadfast; the important resistance by our fighting forces on the warfronts; the unprecedented historic support given by our people to the combatants, the army, the Corps and the mobilization forces; the incredible successes we have gained on the warfronts and in neutralizing the enemy's plots, have forced the West to stop a while in order to see who is their adversary and what they should do.

Thus gentleman, the German foreign minister, when he returned to Germany, said in his official press conference: One of the big mistakes made by the Western world is that it has tried to isolate a great, powerful country such as Iran. This is an extremely momentous statement. This is no ordinary statement. This is not something spoken by some journalist. This was a minister of a country, who when he came to visit us, the enemies of the Islamic Revolution there began a hue and cry in an attempt to censure him for visiting Iran. But now that he has returned and said such a thing at the gates of Europe, it is tantamount to a condemnation of the propaganda fanfare dominating the whole of Europe and the world and a rejection of all the statements made by these people. This cannot be construed as an ordinary statement.

One of the admissions the Americans were forced to make recently — though they made it in passing — was interesting. For the past year or two, the Iraqis have claimed each week: We, our missiles, hit several ships! We, as usual, said nothing. But gradually the world realized that if all these ships were hit by the Iraqis there would no longer remain any ships in this region. Yet these people say: We have hit seven ships, we have hit four ships and sunk them! The Americans said something which — if they had the sense and told the truth about their AWACS aircraft surveying everything — they should have said 2 years ago. They said: The Iranians have succeeded in preparing something capable of misleading the French Exocet missiles. To say this after 2 years; well, there were other missiles before!

The United States, whose AWACS are here, and is claiming that its spies have infiltrated our army, our forces, are in the Gulf and in this or that place — what does it mean when it says such things after 2 years? If it has not realized this by the present time, then it is extremely stupid. To say such things after 2 years is a too much. But if it knew and did not say so, that is another matter. The truth could be a little of both. The fact remains that in view of the number of missiles employed by the Iraqis they have not inflicted on us one hundredth of the losses which they have suffered as a result of firing these missiles.

Such an admission made by our enemy, who does not wish to accord us any scientific or industrial credibility, to admit that we have succeeded in diverting the most advanced missile from its target is only part of the reality; we have done many such things during our war and we will reveal them at the proper time.

We have repeatedly declared our position, and also told Genscher and his entourage. Now once again we declare it. On the fronts we have been ready for some time now for the task which we must fulfill. However, our calculation is based on the following; please note these words carefully: We would be disturbed if a single Iraqi or Iranian were to be killed on our borders with Iraq, and we think that as far as is posssible this problem should be solved without an attack and without bloodshed. So do not make all those commentaries asking: Why are these people not attacking; why is it late; and why is it early? Thanks to these moves, which have more or less begun, we hope that you will come to appreciate the realities. Now that you admit that Saddam is an

aggressor, support us, and let us put the aggressor in the dock and try him, and thereby let us solve all these acts of bloodshed, all this hue and cry and all the insecurity besetting the region — whatever the outcome of the trial. [as heard] But set up a good court in connection with the crimes these people have perpetrated. You agree that he is an aggressor, an aggressor who has committed all these crimes — what else could one do with him? Let a simple court issue its decree.

This is the sort of hope we have if you can be patient. But if we were to be become despondent; if one day we come to realize that you are telling lies; if we were to realize that these messages you are sending us are not true and that you merely wish to waste our time, on that day you yourselves will be responsible for the resumption of these acts of bloodshed whereby we would be compelled to retrieve our right by other means. If our people were to lose hope and realize that diplomatic means and our enemies' coming to their senses would not solve the problem, on that day you will behold the people have left Baghdad behind them and are marching toward Palestine. [cries of Allah Akbar'] [end recording]

Spokesman Denies Rumors of Withdrawal From OPEC

LD281356 Tehran IRNA in English 1350 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — A spokesman for the Oil Ministry categorically denied rumours to the effect that the Islamic Republic of Iran has pulled out of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Speaking to IRNA here today the spokesman stressed that the rumour spread by certain Western press in the past two days alleging Iran of having withdrawn its membership from OPEC, was baseless.

He further told IRNA that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always strived for unity and strengthening of OPEC and has refrained from any move which would hinder its unity and has condemned such efforts.

This attitude, he stressed, is clear from the stance of the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran and their statements.

Soviet Envoy Hands Velayati Note From Gromyko

LD301108 Tehran Domestic Servce in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jul 84

[Text] The Soviet charge d'affaires in Tehran, administering that country's embassy in the absence of the ambassador, this morning met with the foreign affairs minister, Mr Velayati, and handed him a message from Mr Gromyko, minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union.

In the course of this meeting they held discussion and exchange views on bilateral relations.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

No 1,801

LD271729 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 27 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 27, IRNA — About 20 Iraqis were killed or wounded and one loader, one vehicle, and seven personnel bunkers and observation posts were demolished west of the Arvand River by the heavy weaponry fire of the Islamic combatants during the preceding 24 hours.

The Joint Staff Command Communique No 1,801 released today further said that the Islamic combatants, while defending their positions in the western and northwestern operational regions, opened fire on the Iraqi artillery and vehicles positions and bunkers in these fronts and silenced the enemy fire.

As a result, three observation posts, 6 weaponry positions, 2 trucks, one command vehicle and four munitions caches were demolished, while more than 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in these fronts.

In the southern fronts exchange of fire was more intense around Shahrani region. Some Iraqi infantry personnel who were carrying out patrol and observation activities as well as digging channels around this region fled the scene sustaining casualties by the fire of Islamic combatants.

On Thursday, the residential areas of Abadan were barraged by Iraqi long-range fire which damaged nine houses. Fire also broke out in two sectors, concluded the joint staff command communique.

No 1,802

LD281632 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — One of two Iraqi helicopters which violated the airspace of Abadan at 14:30 hours local time (GMT 11:00) Friday was shot down by the Islamic combatants' anti-aircraft defence units, announced the Joint Staff Command Communique No 1,802 issued today.

The communique further said that all the air aggressions of Iraqi aircraft upon the airspace of the Islamic Republic were repulsed by the fire of the Islamic defenders over the past 24 hours.

More than seven heavy weaponry positions, personnel bunkers, observation posts and ammunitions cache of the Iraqi forces were smashed, and about 20 enemy troops were killed or wounded in the northwestern front of Choman Mustafa during the same period.

The Islamic combatants seized an important height in the border region of Sar Dasht, in west Azarbaijan Province during a successful operation at 23:30 hours local time Thursday, which was backed by heavy artillery fire. The defeated enemy troops launched a counter-offensive on Friday which was met with the resistance of the Islamic defenders. The Iraqi aggressors fled the scene sustaining some casualties.

Exchange of fire was more intense in the western front of Sumar during which six group bunkers and observation posts were demolished and more than 13 Iraqis were killed.

An Iraqi patrol unit was routed in Gilan-e Gharb region by the Islamic combatants at 21:15 hours local time Thursday.

In the southern fronts, exchange of fire was much heavier in Zarhani and Hoseyniyeh fronts over the same period during which the enemy forces movements and logistic activities came under control. At least 17 light and heavy weaponry positions and one engineering vehicle were demolished and several Iraqi forces were killed in these fronts, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.

No 1,803

LD291717 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 29 Jul 84

[Text] Tehran, July 29, IRNA — Four villagers were martyred and seven others wounded and several houses were damaged as Iraqi forces shelled Kan-e-zar and Bivaran villages of Sar Dasht in west Azarbaijan Provice during the preceding 24 hours. This followed the liberation of important heights in Sar Dasht region, in northwest Iran on Thursday night, announced the Joint Staff Command Communique No. 1,803 issued today.

More than 35 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and one Katyusha, one munitions depot and at least four group and individual bunkers as well as over 70 percent of an Iraqi base were demolished by Islamic combatants in the northwestern operational regions during the said period.

Artillery duels continued in the various fronts being more intense in Sumar, Qasr-e Shirin (in west) and Zayd and Khorramshahr fronts in south.

Seven heavy weaponry positions and observation posts were knocked out and several enemy troops were killed or wounded in the western battlefronts.

In southern warfronts the Iraqi fire was extinguished in the Arvand River front and the enemy's activities came under control along Al-Faw-Basra highway. More than 11 heavy weaponry positions and personnel bunkers were destroyed and several Iraqi soldiers were killed in this area, while the Iraqis' engineering activities were halted.

In Bayeh front, in south, Gendarmerie forces destroyed three Iraqi group bunkers and one 120-mm mortar launching pad, killing or wounding some enemy troops.

Abadan was under the Iraqi heavy long-range fire during Saturday as a result of which two houses were damaged and one civilian was wounded, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.

IRGC Communique on Deaths of Counterrevolutionaries

LD281732 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Communique issued by Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters — Joint Operations Center of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The combatants of the army of monotheism, continuing their ceaseless battle against oppression and blasphemy in the world in a multiphased operation carried out in the country's northwestern border region, inflicted heavy damage and casualties on the defeated and weak forces of the Zionist regime of Iraq and the counterrevolutionaries connected with the world oppression.

In this operation the combatants of Islam — comprised of the courageous personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, selfless guardsmen and the forces of the mobilization of the oppressed of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the brave men of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran — helped by Almighty God, succeeded in destroying the forces of the Zionist enemy and the subservient counterrevolutionaries and in establishing their hold over vast areas of the border zone and heights overlooking the town of Qal'at Dizeh, the towns of Shineh and Suneh and the communicating routes of Qal'at Dizeh-Rawanduz and Qal'at Dizeh - Dopazah. A total of 280-km of the areas dirtied by the presence of the Ba'thists and counterrevolutionaries was completely purged. The Muslim inhabitants of dozens of villages situated on the 35 km-axis of Kuh-e Neshkeh - Band Khalab and the route between Ahmadboru - (Doleto) were liberated. In spite of several counteroffensives launched by the defeated Saddamist forces, the forces of Islam liberated the sensitive heights of Bardehsian 2,000, Shartemalmus 2,175, the heights of Jasian Bozorg, Emamzadeh 2,000, Zirvineh 2,221 and 15 other sensitive border heights.

A considerable amount of arms, wireless sets, ammunition and vehicles including 105-mm guns were captured by the forces of Islam in the operation, and at least 220 of the forces of the Zionist enemy and the counterrevolutionaries subservient to the world oppression were killed. More than 500 of them were wounded. Among those wounded and injured a number of the leaders of the subservient counterrevolutionaries could be seen.

Following the recent operation carried out by the combatants of Islam in the western and northwestern parts of our country under the command of the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, 941 duped elements have surrendered to the forces of Islam to date.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, Joint Operations Center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Fourth Enemy Offensive Repulsed in Sumar

LD281623 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] Bakhtaran July 28 IRNA — Another attempted enemy offensive, the fourth in one week, was repulsed in the western

front of Sumar in Bakhtaran Province over the preceding 24 hours. The enemy attempt, aimed at taking over the positions of the Islamic combatants of Iran in the Sumar region, was severely repelled thanks to the vigilance and resistance of the Muslim defenders. Enemy troops were forced to retreat sustaining high casualties.

Exchange of fire continued in other fronts of Bakhtaran Province over the same period. The fire of the Islamic combatants over enemy positions and fortifications destroyed four group bunkers and two observation posts. Also 13 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in this action.

Large Group of Volunteers Leave for Warfronts

GF280514 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] In continuation of the increasing presence of the various sections of the ubiquitous Islamic nation at the fronts of the battle against the Zionist enemy, a large group of the noble members of the mobilization forces and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] of the cities of Tabriz, Mianeh, Neyshabur, and Qom left for the fronts of combat against the Zionist enemy during the past 2 days. During the same period, a group of crusading volunteer brother technicians and experts in various fields left for the fronts from the province of Bushehr and the cities of Sabzevar, Neyshbur, and Behshahr to provide technical assistance to the Islamic combatants.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri Receives Leaders

Iraqi Islamic Council

LD281228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Jul 84

[Text] The chairman and spokesman of the Iraqi Supreme Islamic Revolution Council, accompanied by the deputy commander and official responsible for intelligence at the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the official responsible for supporting the Iraqi movement, and the military advisor to our country's president, yesterday met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri and reported to him on the problems of and plans for strengthening Iraq's Islamic revolution. Montazeri, expressing his appreciation for recognizing and strengthening genuine Iraqi struggling forces, issued the necessary guidelines regarding the need to strengthen the fronts of the imposed war, increase support for Iraq's Islamic movement, and continue the struggle until final victory.

During the past few days Nateq Nuri, minister of interior; Rahmani, supervisor of the Mobilization of the Oppressed; and Akrami, manager of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran; the Saveh and Ardestan deputies to the Islamic Consultative Assembly and the Friday imams of Kohak and Firuzabad in Fars Province separately met and had talks with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. During their meeting the supervisor of the Mobilization of the Oppressed handed him a sum of 20 million rials donated by the people for strengthening the mobilization bases and meeting the needs of Islam's mighty combatants.

According to the same report more than 1 million rials donated by the population of Firuzabad was handed over to Grand Ayatollah Montazeri by that township's Friday imam as aid in the battle of good against evil.

Mujahidin Scholars

GF291716 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 29 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday received in Qom members of the executive council of the society of mojahedin scholars in Tehran. During the meeting he was briefed on the new decisions of the foundation regarding guidance and its special measures to organize contacts with mojahedin scholars in other cities. Ayatollah Montazeri lauded the efforts of the society of Mujahidin scholars in Tehran and gave instructions regarding various issues.

Ulema Executive Board Members

LD292037 Tehran IRNA in English 1755 GMT 29 Jul 84

[Text] Qom July 29 IRNA — In a meeting with visiting members of the executive board of the Combatant Ulema Society of Tehran here Saturday, Ayatollah Montazeri openly resented the entrustment to members of the ulema of such commonplace tasks as distribution of communal groceries and rations in the cities. He also denounced the involvement of mosques in such tasks as distribution of certain consumer items and recommended that, as dignified religious sanctuaries, the mosques throughout the country would much better be spared engagment in mundane affairs.

He reminded that after all it is inconsistent with the dignity of the ulema to agree to their involvement in routine secular tasks. The ayatollah urged the ulema to attend primarily to their spiritual tasks. He also advised the community of the ulema in Tehran to establish regular and steady contacts with the rest of the members of the ulema in the provinces.

In other meeting in Qom, Ayatollah Montazeri Saturday received Friday prayers leaders of the cities of Behbehan, Anar, and Rafsanjan.

The leader of the Friday mass prayers of Behbehan presented a check to the ayatollah to the amount of three million rials ($33,000) in contribution to the battlefronts by educators and businessmen in the city of Behbehan.

Also the leader of Friday mass prayers of the city of Anar presented a bag full of gold and silver ornaments in contribution to the battlefronts by donators in his city. In another contribution to the battlefronts, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ma'fuzi presented Ayatollah Montazeri a check by Iranian students in the United States to the amount of $7,000.